

Frequently Asked Agriculture Questions

Simplifying Compliance

Who can develop an Ag Water Quality Plan (AWQP)?

The local county conservation district offices and extension offices can help develop AWQPs. To locate a local conservation district office, visit conservation.ky.gov/pages/conservationdistricts.aspx. To locate a local extension office, visit extension.ca.uky.edu/county.



How often should a KY AWQP be updated?

A Kentucky Agriculture Water Quality Plan should be representative of the practices currently occurring on the farm and may also provide information on a wish list for additional BMPs to install. The plan should be updated as practices on the farm change over time, new land is put into production or new BMPs are implemented. Updating every two years should be sufficient for most farms.

Who can help develop a Kentucky Nutrient Management Plan (KyNMP)?

Some county extension agents may feel comfortable in developing a KyNMP. To locate a local extension office, visit extension.ca.uky.edu/county. If the local office is unable to assist, contact Macy Fawns at Macy.Fawns@uky.edu and request assistance.



Who can help develop a Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan?

Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plans are developed by Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) Technical Service Providers (TSPs). For help locating a TSP, visit techreg.sc.egov.usda.gov/CustLocateTSP.aspx.

Who has funding available for practices on a farm?

Funding may be available from the Division of Conservation State Cost Share Program. Sign ups are accepted continuously. For more information, visit <http://conservation.ky.gov/Pages/StateCostShare.aspx>. Additionally, funding may be available from NRCS. Many BMPs recommended by the Statewide Agriculture Water Quality Plan may be available for funding through programs such as the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) or the Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP). For more information on applying for these programs, visit www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/ky/programs/financial/.

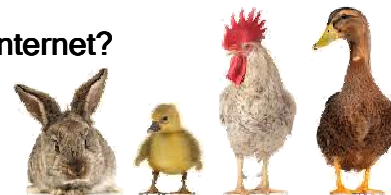
Who has tools available online?

Many tools available online can be found at the University of Kentucky College of Agriculture webpage.

- The Kentucky Agriculture Water Quality Act Planning Tool is located at www.bae.uky.edu/awqpt/.
- The Kentucky Nutrient Management Plan and Calculator are available at www.bae.uky.edu/awqpt/nutrient.htm.
- Additional helpful online calculators are available at www.bae.uky.edu/awqpt/calculators.htm.

Who can help if the producer does not use the Internet?

The local extension and conservation offices are available to help obtain printed materials for people who do not use the online tools.



Contacts

Division of Compliance Assistance
502-564-0323
envhelp@ky.gov
DCA.ky.gov

Division of Water
502-564-3410
Water.ky.gov

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Do I need a permit for a stream crossing or sand/gravel dredging?

Activities that occur in and around a stream may need a Section 401 Water Quality Certification or a Floodplain Construction Permit. For additional information about water quality certification, visit water.ky.gov/permitting/Pages/KYWaterQualityCertProg.aspx. For additional floodplain permitting information, visit water.ky.gov/floodplain/Pages/FloodplainConstruction.aspx.

Does a farm need a permit?

A permit is needed from the KY Division of Water if the farm has a liquid manure management system. To apply for this permit, the farmer should complete a Short Form B available at water.ky.gov/permitting/KPDES%20Documents/KPDESSHORTFORMBandInstructionsFeb09.pdf. Other permits or registrations from the KY Department for Environmental Protection may be required if the producer has an anaerobic digester, generator, fuel storage or food processing. For any questions about environmental compliance, contact the Division of Compliance Assistance at envhelp@ky.gov or 502-782-6189.

How long is my Kentucky No Discharge Operational Permit (KNDOP) good for?

In most cases, agriculture operations in Kentucky have the KNDOP general permit coverage, which lasts for five years from the issued date of the permit. Everyone who is covered under a general KNDOP will be required to reapply for a new permit when the current permit expires. The current permit can be found at dep.ky.gov/formslibrary/Documents/KNDOP-AFO%20FS%20and%20Permit.pdf.

Individual permits are issued for large facilities and expire five years from the date of the individual permit issuance. The definition of a large facility is included in the permit and is based on the number of animals. A large Animal Feeding Operation (AFO) means that an operation stables or confines as many or more than the numbers of animals specified in any of the following categories:

- 700 mature dairy cows, whether milked or dry
- 1,000 veal calves
- 1,000 cattle, other than mature dairy cows or veal calves
- 2,500 swine, each weighing fifty-five (55) pounds or more
- 10,000 swine, each weighing less than fifty-five (55) pounds
- 500 horses
- 10,000 sheep or lambs
- 55,000 turkeys
- 30,000 laying hens or broilers, if the AFO uses a liquid manure handling system
- 125,000 chickens, other than laying hens, if the AFO uses other than a liquid manure handling system
- 30,000 ducks, if the AFO uses other than a liquid manure handling system
- 5,000 ducks, if the AFO uses a liquid manure handling system



Who can help a producer that has received a Letter of Warning (LOW)?

The LOW or Notice of Violation (NOV) that is issued by the Division of Water will direct the producer to the local conservation district. The district should contact the director of the Division of Conservation to see if funding is available to address any concerns or if the request should be considered with the regular pool of applications.

The producer may contact the local NRCS office for technical assistance, but any assistance provided should be at the request of the producer. An extension may also provide assistance.



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